

News Desk

RECORD NEWS

Elton's latest

ELTON JOHN's new single is the Lennon-McCartney classic "Lucy In The Sky With Diamonds", which originally appeared on the Beatles' "Sgt. Pepper" album. It is released by DJM on November 15. The track was recorded in the States and features John Lennon in the backing.

● **Herb Alpert** has a new single released by A & M in November titled "I Belong". It was penned by Hal David (writer of "This Guy's In Love With You") and Goran Frisktorp.

● **Neil Sedaka's** latest single "Bad Blood" is issued by Polydor on November 8. Out the same day is his "Live At The Royal Festival Hall" album, recorded during his British tour at the beginning of the year.

● The Troggs have been signed to Larry Page's Penny Farthing label, and are currently in the studio under Page's supervision cutting material for a single and an album.

● The Hollies' follow-up to "The Air That I Breathe" is released by Polydor on November 8 titled "I'm Down". And out on the same label at the weekend is the latest from the Rubettes, "Juke Box Jive".

● **Donny Osmond's** new MGM single "Where Did All The Good Times Go", out this weekend, is the first of a batch of Osmonds material to be issued before Christmas. Other new releases will feature Jimmy Osmond, Donny and Marie Osmond and the Osmonds themselves.

● **Nazareth** have a new single issued by Mooncrest on November 8. It is their version of the old Everly Brothers' number "Love Hurts".

● EMI are launching a new soul label this month named Power Exchange. First single on November 8 will be "Peace" by the O'Jays, with "Having A Party" by H. P. Barmum set for the following week. The label will concentrate mainly on black music but, according to a spokesman, will not be completely dependent on imported U.S. material.

● An MCA album titled "Best Of Osibisa" is released on November 15. It comprises nine tracks from the band's first three albums.

● **Mike Storey Band**, who recently toured Britain with Johnny Rivers, have curtailed live gigs in order to record their second MAM album with American producer John Jansen — who has previously engineered recordings by Jimi Hendrix and the Who. The album, comprising all new Storey material, will be issued in January.

● **Dobie Gray** has a new single out this weekend titled "Roll On Sweet Mississippi". It is extracted from his new Mentor Williams-produced album "Hey Dixie", released simultaneously.

● EMI are putting up their album prices this weekend. Pop albums go up from £2.21 to £2.50, mid-price sets from £1.47 to £1.65, and budget albums from 79p to £1.20.

● Backing musicians on the new Bob Dylan album "Blood On The Tracks" — which, as reported last week, is released by CBS on November 15 — include Buddy Cage (steel guitarist of New Riders of the Purple Sage), Barry Kornfield and Eric Weissberg. The ten new Dylan numbers on the set are "You're Gonna Make Me Lonesome When You Go", "Simple Twist Of Fate", "You're A Big Girl Now", "Idiot Wind", "Meet Me In The Morning", "Lily, Rosemary, And The Jack Of Hearts", "If You See Her, Say Hello", "Shelter From

Reed, Hues, White here in New Year

LOU REED, BARRY WHITE, Hues Corporation and Dionne Warwick will all be touring Britain early in the New Year, the NME learned this week. All four acts will be coming to this country as part of full-scale European tours. The London office of the William Morris Agency revealed that White, Dionne and the Hues band will be here in February, followed by Reed in March.

A spokesman commented: "They will all play selected concerts in key British cities, including major London venues." But he added that the projected visit by Todd Rundgren, originally planned for November, has had to be postponed until April. Full details of these tours are not expected to be finalised until after Christmas, though all four visits have definitely been contracted.



Wishbone's ANDY POWELL (left) and LAURIE WISEFIELD

ASH: ANOTHER BRITISH TOUR

WISHBONE ASH, whose autumn concert tour of Britain has only recently been completed, are planning another extensive tour of this country for the New Year. A spokesman for the band said this week that they intend to open at a major London venue, followed by a series of nationwide gigs "covering areas normally neglected by overseas schedule."

The first leg of their world travels takes them to the United States for a coast-to-coast tour in November. Then, following a holiday break in December, they leave for the Far East — where they play concerts in Japan, Australia and New Zealand. A major gig in Honolulu will be played on their homeward journey, and there is a likelihood of a benefit concert in Brazil in aid of the victims of the recent Honduras disaster.

After their British tour, it is expected that Ash will undertake engagements in Europe — where they have just been voted "Top Live Band" in several rock magazines — during the spring. Their new MCA album "There's The Rub", the first with their new line-up, is released in Britain on November 8.

Hardin & Rose duo

TIM HARDIN and Tim Rose are to perform together as a double act for the first time ever.

NEWS BRIEFS

● **BERT JANSCH** now plays London Drury Lane Theatre Royal on November 10, one week later than originally announced. Among other concerts set for the ex-Pentangle guitarist are Glasgow City Hall (November 18), Birmingham Town Hall (19), Manchester Free Trade Hall (22) and Bristol Colston Hall (25). Decameron are support act.

● **GENE PITNEY** has had two one-nighters added to his current cabaret tour of Britain. They are at Solihull New Cresta Theatre on November 10 and Norwich Talk Of East Anglia the following day.

● **JUDAS PRIEST** close their current extensive British tour with four additional dates — at St. Anne's Lowther Pavilion (tonight, Thursday), London Marquee (Friday), Manchester Polytechnic (Saturday) and Douglas L. o. M. Palace Lido (November 9).

● **ROCKY RHODES SHOW** are in line for a major role in a feature movie which goes into production in January. They are being tested this week and, if successful, will also be writing the score and recording a soundtrack album. The rock band are also set for a ten-day tour of Germany from November 16.

● **THE STRAWBS** return to America for an extensive tour taking in virtually the whole of January and February. They then fly direct to Australia, touring there and New Zealand for the entire month of March.

● **SLIM WHITMAN's** current British tour has been extended, due to his Chart success with "Happy Anniversary". Extra dates are Preston Guildhall (November 20), London Kilburn Gaumont State (23), London Wimbledon Theatre (24), Peterborough, ABC Theatre (27), Cardiff Capitol (29) and Birmingham Hippodrome (30).

● **DEMIS ROUSSOS** has had another couple of concerts added to his November mini-tour by promoter Robert Paterson. His full schedule is now Bournemouth Winter Gardens (this Saturday), London Royal Albert Hall (next Monday), Birmingham Town Hall (Tuesday), Dublin Carlton (November 7) and Manchester Free Trade Hall (8). Roussos returns here early in the New Year for a full concert tour lasting three or four weeks.

● **SEVENTH WAVE** have now become a permanent group following a series of trial gigs in the summer. Led by Ken Elliot (synthesiser, organ and vocals), the line-up also features Pete Lerner (synthesiser and piano), Brian Gould (synthesiser and organ), Steve Cook (bass), Pepi Lerner (vocals) and Kieran O'Conner (drums). The band, which has a unique front line of three keyboard-players, begins a British tour this weekend (see Gig Guide for details).

● **GLEN CAMPBELL** is suing London impresario Derek Block over "financial aspects" of the singer's spring tour of Britain, when Block bought the right to present a number of dates from Campbell's British representatives, the Ember Concert Division. The action seeks the issue of a High Court writ for "accounting and payment of monies due."

● **SAILOR**, the new CBS band who are to support Mott The Hoople on their previously-reported British tour commencing November 10, fly to Holland this weekend for club and TV appearances. Their single "Traffic Jam" is currently in the Dutch Top Ten.

● **SUPERTRAMP** promote their new A & M album "Crime Of The Century" at St. Andrew's University (tonight, Thursday), Aberdeen University (Friday), Dundee University (Saturday), Bradford University (November 5), Manchester University (6), Lampeter University (8), Bangor University (9), Burslem Queen's Theatre (12) and Stoke North Staffs Polytechnic (15). A full British concert tour begins at the end of November.

● **10 c.c.** play additional gigs at Swansea University (tomorrow, Friday), Manchester University (Saturday), Chelmsford Chancellor Hall (November 7), Nottingham Trent Polytechnic (8) and London Isleworth Borough Road Polytechnic (9).

● **SASSFRAS** play a full week of London gigs in December visiting the Marquee (1), Edmonton Cocks Ferry Inn (2), Peckham Newlands Tavern (3), Walthamstow North-East Polytechnic (4), Greenwich McMillan College (5) and Southbank Polytechnic (6).

HARUM DATES

PROCOL HARUM, who recently completed a British tour, are to play four more concerts in November — including two in London. These extra gigs are at London Imperial College (November 9), London Wimbledon Theatre (10), Dunstable Queensway Hall (13) and Guildford Surrey University (15).

More gigs for Tymes

MORE DATES and venues have been set for the Tymes, whose new British tour begins at Margate Dreamland on November 8. In addition to the gigs exclusively reported by NME two weeks ago, the group will be playing at London Peckham Mr. Bee's (November 9), Leicester Gaiety Lounge and Coventry Mr. George's (13), Bournemouth Maison Royal (21), Dewsbury Pickwick Club (25), Wigan Casino and Winsford Civic Hall (30), Altrincham Red Robin (December 4) and Dunstable California (7).

New rumpus over Genesis tickets

ANOTHER SETBACK hit Genesis supporters this week, following last week's postponement of the band's projected British concert tour until the spring. At the time, it was announced that ticket-holders would be able to retain their tickets for use on the revised dates in April and May — the only exception being Newcastle, where tickets had to be exchanged for cash refunds. But now this situation has changed, and it was learned this week that ONLY tickets for Wembley Empire Pool and Edinburgh Usher Hall will be valid for the re-scheduled gigs.

This means that people holding tickets for Genesis concerts at Manchester Palace, Bristol Hippodrome and Birmingham Hippodrome — in addition to Newcastle Odeon — MUST go to the place of purchase and secure cash refunds. A spokesman for Genesis told NME: "I don't know why this is, or why they couldn't have let us know earlier. I am only sorry that we have inconvenienced and disappointed our fans."

GENTLE GIANT DATES RE-SET

GENTLE GIANT have now re-scheduled ten of the concerts they were forced to postpone, due to the extension of their tour.

A few more gigs, including a major London appearance, have still to be finalised. But dates con-